

# What how the global water demand will

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What is happening?? One of the most abundant and reliable resources is Water, and Canada holds about 7% of the world's freshwater supply, which can be sold across our borders. ? Occasionally, Canada exports water to other countries including America, China, and the UK to fulfill their immediate need. ? But to make it an ongoing process, we need a legal system to treat it as “ goods,” just like we do with oil and wheat. When did this start?? Exporting icebergs for drinkable water is not a new concept. ? In fact, this is one of the many schemes made to obtain this valuable resource for those who require it. ? The proposals for achieving this idea has been around for as early as the 70s.

Where is this issue occurring? O It is occurring in Canada specifically in Newfoundland where most of Canada's icebergs are found. O In Canada, the provincial government of Newfoundland has issued an export license for icebergs since 1999. O 90% of Newfoundland's icebergs originate from the glaciers of western Greenland, and the rest comes from Canada's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). Why is this happening?> The economy will also grow as a result of rapid population growth, which means there will be more shortage of water.

> Also, climate change can soon cause more people to face water scarcity in the coming future.> As you can see in the chart to the right, predictions have been made about how the global water demand will increase in 2050. What is controversial about this issue?? Canada is open-handedly giving away freshwater to foreign countries, which is seen as environmentally irresponsible. ? People are contradicting this by saying that Canada should take advantage of its abundant supply of water by selling it for profit.

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? Public reaction and the political environment would likely prevent the export of water even if it were economically possible.

**Consequences Political** Without an export policy, water is exported from Canada to fulfill the need of countries requiring it. Social It would affect the jobs of the people who are involved in the water harvesting and bottling water industry. **Environmental** Large-scale water removal of water will negatively affect ecosystems, increase pollution and harm plants, animals, & communities.

**Examples:** \* Marine life \* Commercial fishing, \* Tourism and recreation; \* Change in local weather patterns and long-term climate. **Economical** Giving the exact amount of cost involved in export is difficult. Only a single iceberg-towing vessel can cost about \$75, 000 a day. **Solutions** We can make changes in individual, community, and national level. Individuals can reduce water consumption by taking shorter showers, closing taps after use, etc. Communities can also work together in water conservation projects to spread awareness about water usage.

Together they can share their knowledge with other countries around the world. Canada should make a policy to share this supply with deprived nations, which would be profitable, reasonable, and long-lasting. This way, we can aim to sustain this precious resource for the upcoming generations.